



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION I  
631 PARK AVENUE  
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406

MAY 26 1985

Docket No. 030-03754  
License No. 06-00217-06  
EA 85-54

Combustion Engineering, Inc.  
ATTN: Mr. D. Streinz, Director  
Nuclear Services, Research & Development  
1000 Prospect Hill Road  
Windsor, Connecticut 06095

Gentlemen:

Subject: Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalties  
(NRC Inspection Report No. 84-01)

This refers to the NRC special safety inspection of activities authorized by NRC License No. 06-00217-06 conducted on December 13, 1984 at your facility in Windsor, Connecticut, and on February 25, 1985 at our office. The report of this inspection was forwarded to you on April 10, 1985. The inspection was conducted to review the circumstances associated with the exposure of individuals to radiation. The amount of exposure to one of the individuals was in excess of the regulatory limit. These exposures were reported to the NRC in a letter dated August 28, 1984. During the inspection, one other violation of NRC requirements was identified involving failure to perform an adequate radiation exposure survey. On April 18, 1985, we held an enforcement conference with you and a member of your staff during which these violations, their causes, and your corrective actions were discussed.

The exposure occurred because of inadequate management control of a work activity performed by technicians involving the testing of irradiated and contaminated "Charpy" impact specimens. The violations are of significant concern to the NRC because (1) an adequate radiation survey of the specimens was not performed prior to handling by the test technicians; (2) the test activities were not adequately planned to control radiation exposures; (3) monitoring of received exposures was not conducted to ensure the test activity was terminated when unexpected exposures were experienced; and (4) the investigation of the exposures was not adequate to determine the cause. These violations demonstrate the need for improvements in management control over licensed activities to assure adherence to NRC requirements and safe performance of licensed activities.

To emphasize the importance of adequate oversight and control of licensed activities, I have been authorized, after consultation with the Director, Office of Inspection and Enforcement, to issue the enclosed Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalties in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for the violations set forth in the enclosed Notice. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C (1985) (Enforcement Policy), the violations described

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

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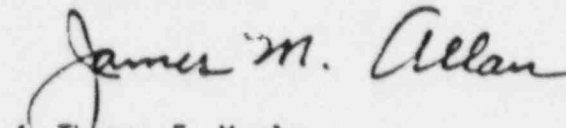
in the enclosed Notice have been categorized as a Severity Level III problem. The base value of a civil penalty for a Severity Level III problem is \$5,000. The escalation and mitigation factors in the Enforcement Policy were considered and no adjustment has been deemed appropriate.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. Additionally, in your response, you should describe the actions taken or planned to assure (1) that adequate surveys are performed prior to initiating licensed activities involving radioactive material to provide a basis for establishing radiation protection practices and specifying procedures to be utilized; (2) that procedures for licensed activities contain appropriate provisions to ensure the work is performed safely and within regulatory requirements; (3) that personnel are trained in and knowledgeable of procedures; (4) that planned, unusual or infrequent licensed activities are identified to and reviewed by appropriate levels of management; (5) that radiation levels are appropriately monitored to identify unexpected conditions for which the implemented radiation protection practices are insufficient; and (6) that exposures are appropriately investigated to identify problems requiring corrective action. Your reply to this letter and the results of future inspections will be considered in determining whether further enforcement action is appropriate.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosure will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room.

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

Sincerely,

  
for Thomas E. Murley  
Regional Administrator

Enclosure:  
Notice of Violation and Proposed  
Imposition of Civil Penalties

cc w/encl:  
Public Document Room (PDR)  
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)  
State of Connecticut